

# Yoruba

Multivaluation @ Frankfurt

September 28, 2018

## 1 Language Information

- Source: Rowlands (1969)
- Glottlog: <http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/yoru1245>
- ISO-identifier: yor
- Speakers:
- Location: Benin, Nigeria
- Geneology: Atlantic-Congo > Volta-Congo > Bentue-Congo > Defoid > Yoruboid > Edekiri > Ede > Eastern Ede > Southeastern Ede > Nuclear Yoruba > Lucimi-Yoruba > Yoruba

## 2 Nominal Morphology

Plurality on the noun is not marked. If it has to be expressed, the pronoun 'they' is used in front of the word.

## 3 Verbal Morphology

The verb does not agree with the subject.

## 4 Conjunction

The coordinating conjunction in Yoruba is *àti* 'and'. A doubled *ti* conjoins two nouns of related meaning, it can coordinate clauses too. The auxiliary verb *sì* is used to connect sentences and translates as 'moreover, also, and'. There are other conjunctions as well- *ṣùbgón* 'but' and *àmọ* 'but'.

- (1) èmi àti Kẹhìndé lọ(ọ) kí i  
?

'I and Kehinde went to greet him.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 201]

- (2) àti èmi àti Kẹhìndé jọ lọ(ọ) kí i  
?  
'Both I and Kehinde together went to greet him.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 201]
- (3) mwọn ẹ wá l'álẹ̀jò b'ó ti tọ àti b'ó ti yẹ  
?  
'They entertained us as is right and (as is) proper.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 201]
- (4) mwọn fẹ̀ mò b'ó ti ga àti b'ó ti gùn tó  
?  
'They want to know how tall and how long it is.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 201]
- (5) mo rà epo, ẹran, ata àti àlùbòsà  
?  
'I bought palm-oil, meat, pepper and onions.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 201]
- (6) ó wípé òun kò lè wá àti pé òun 'fẹ̀(ẹ) bá mi sọ̀rọ̀  
?  
'He said that he could not come and that he wanted to talk with me.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 201]
- (7) tègbòntàbùrò  
?  
'both elder and younger brother' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 202]
- (8) tọ̀kọ̀taya  
?  
'husband and wife' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 202]
- (9) tọ̀sántòru  
?  
'night and day' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 202]
- (10) tègbòntàbùrò l'ó dé  
?  
'Both elder and younger brother came.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 202]
- (11) nwọn jẹ̀ tọ̀kọ̀taya  
?  
'They are husband and wife.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 202]
- (12) a ẹ̀sẹ̀ tọ̀sántòru  
?  
'We worked night and day.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 202]
- (13) èmi ni mo rí i tí mo sì pa á  
?  
'It was I who saw it and (also) killed it.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 202]

- (14) epo ni mo ñrà tí mo tún ñtà  
?  
'It is palm-oil that I buy and in turn sell.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 202]
- (15) bí mo bá rí i tí mo sì r'áyè bá a sòrò  
?  
'If I see him and have a chance to talk with him.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 202]
- (16) bí nwọn ti dé'bẹ tí nwọn sì wòye pé...  
?  
'..., as they arrived there and realized that ...' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 202]
- (17) àgbàdò tútù t'ó ti sè t'ó sì gbóná yaya  
?  
'Fresh corn which she had cooked and which was piping hot.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 203]
- (18) kò dúdú púpò, kò sì pupa púpò  
?  
'She was not very dark and she was not very light.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 203]
- (19) ó mú mi l'ára dá, èmi kì yió sì gbàgbé  
?  
'He caused me to get better, and I shall not forget.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 203]
- (20) ó dà lé mi l'óri ó sì bà agbádá ògá mi jẹ báṣabàṣa  
?  
'It spilled over me and also spoiled my master's gown all over.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 203]
- (21) bí aṣò bá sì ti bèrèsí(i) sá, yió pa á tì  
?  
'And when a gown began to lose color, he would put it aside.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 203]
- (22) nígbàtí mo sì rí i pé gbogbo wọn'lọ síwájú, mo bá ẹsẹ mi sòrò  
?  
'And when I saw that they had all gone ahead, I took to my heels.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 203]
- (23) kì ísì ịsẹ bèẹ mọ  
?  
'And he does not act so any more.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 203]
- (24) nígbàtí mo bá sì ñkà á...  
?  
'And whenever I read it...' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 203]

- (25) ó nṣe aṣojú oníṣòwò bèṣeni kò mòwé  
?  
'He is a trader's representative but (surprisingly enough) he is illiterate.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 204]

## 5 Disjunction

Disjunction is marked by *àbí/tàbí* 'or'.

- (26) lẹ(ọ) bá mi rà ọgèdè tàbí ọpẹ-òyínbó wá kíákíá  
?  
'Go and quickly buy for me bananas or pineapples.' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 204]
- (27) kí n sè é ni àbí kí n dín i ni?  
?  
'Am I to stew it or fry it?' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 204]
- (28) àb'ò ò fẹ(ẹ) lẹ mọ?  
?  
'Or don't you want to go any more?' [Rowlands, 1969, p. 204]

## 6 Prepositions

1. *ní* 'at, on, in'
2. *bí* 'like, as'
3. *lórí* 'on'
4. *sórí* 'onto'
5. *nínú* 'in'
6. *sí* 'to, towards'

## References

Rowlands, Evan Colyn (1969). *Teach Yourself Yoruba*. London: English Universities Press.